

Queens Interagency Council On Aging

80-02 Kew Gardens Road, Suite 202

Kew Gardens, New York 11415

(718) 268-5954 / Fax (718) 268-0295

Post-Event Summary Report

Name of Event: “Our Community: Providing for the Seniors of the Future”

Date of Event: April 27, 2005

Location of Event: Queens, New York

Number of Persons attending: 100

Sponsoring Organization(s): Queens Interagency Council on Aging, Inc. (QICA) and Queensboro Council for Social Welfare, Inc. (QCSW)

Contact Name: Bruce Cunningham, QICA Executive Director

Telephone Number: 718-268-5954 **Email:** bcunningham@fhch.org

Priority Issue #1: Lifelong Learning for Older Adults:

Today’s senior population is living longer; and

The senior population is expected to more than double by 2035; and

Seniors now and in the future will have more time over their lifespan to lead productive lives.

QICA & QCSW therefore encourage the Administration on Aging (AOA) and other agencies and organizations to advocate, support and fund lifelong learning and creative opportunities for seniors in the humanities and the visual and performing arts, so as to sustain the human spirit and nurture individual growth and fulfillment. Life long learning includes both matriculating and non-matriculating educational opportunities.

Barriers:

Inadequate funding to pay for the cost of instruction, classroom materials and facility usage.

More accessible transportation needed to move seniors from community aging facilities to institutions of learning.

Proposed Solution(s):

Private and government partnerships to support and fund community older adult centers as viable locations for quality one-stop lifelong learning centers.

Private and government partnerships to support and fund professional educators and artists drawn from higher education and other sources to provide quality instruction and enrichment opportunities for older adults.